



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on November 14, 2007, at the Hall-Dale Elementary School, Hallowell, with the following members present: Vice Chair Philip Dionne, Jean Gulliver, Marilyn Tardy; Connie Goldman; James Banks; and Ann Weisleder. Excused: James Carignan; Jack Norris; and Mabel Desmond.

Also present were: Deputy Commissioner Angela Faherty; Scott Brown, AIA, School Facilities; and Rhonda Casey, Clerk.

CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Jim Banks, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the August 15, September 12, and October 10, 2007, minutes as written.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; AMENDMENT TO
BREWER'S CONCEPT APPROVAL

REVIEW APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL DEGREE-GRANTING
AUTHORIZATION AS SUBMITTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND
TO AWARD THE MASTER OF MEDICAL EDUCATION LEADERSHIP (MMEL)
DEGREE

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Connie Goldman, and unanimously voted by those members present to approve the consent agenda.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; WAIVER OF THE
DESIGNATED YEAR TO ACHIEVE CONCEPT APPROVAL FOR FOUR (4)
MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Statement of Fact: State Board of Education rule 05-071 Chapter 61, Section 6(2)(F)(1) requires that all projects on the Approved Projects List be assigned a calendar year within which Concept Approval of each school construction project must be obtained. Failure to obtain Concept Approval within the designated year shall result in removal of the project from the Approved Projects List unless a waiver is obtained from the State Board of Education at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the school administrative unit's assigned year (a copy of the rule is on file with the Department of Education).

Four (4) school systems who are on the Approved Projects List with Concept Approval due in calendar year 2007 will not meet their deadline and all four (4) are requesting a waiver of that deadline requirement. Those school systems are:

SAD #32 (Ashland)
Machias School Department

Gorham School Department
Brunswick School Department,

Each of the four (4) school units have been working with the School Facilities Services Team and has developed proposed plans and timelines for obtaining Concept Approval and, if approved by the State Board of Education, will constitute the waiver to continue their projects. Copies of their timelines designating the planning and approval processes are on file with the School Facilities Services Office in the Department of Education. All materials have been reviewed and accepted by the School Facilities Services Team and submitted to the Commissioner.

Recommendation: The Commissioner of Education recommends that the State Board of Education approve the following:

- SAD #32 (Ashland) – approve their waiver request;
- Gorham School Department - approve their waiver request;
- Brunswick School Department - approve their waiver request;
- Machias School Department – approve their waiver request contingent upon the governance issues between the Machias School Department and SAD #37 being resolved and their governance structure having been approved by the Machias School Board and the SAD #37 Board of Directors. The terms of the governance agreement must be acceptable to the Commissioner of Education. The agreement must be finalized and in place by March 31, 2008.

Chapter 61 – Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects

Section 6. School Construction Eligibility and Approval Process

Section 2 – Eligibility for State Funding,

F – Time Limitations, paragraph (1)

F. Time Limitations - The following time limitations apply to all Major Capital School Construction projects.

- (1) Every project placed on the Approved Projects List will be assigned a calendar year within which Concept Approval shall be obtained. Failure to obtain Concept Approval within the designated year shall result in removal from the Approved Projects List unless a waiver is obtained from the State Board at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the school administrative unit's assigned year. To be considered for a waiver, the school administrative unit must present to the State Board a proposed timetable and plan for obtaining Concept Approval. Approval by the State Board of the proposed timetable shall constitute a waiver.

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Jim Banks, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the waiver for SAD 32 – Ashland, Gorham School Department, and Brunswick School Department.

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Marilyn Tardy, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the waiver for Machias School Department contingent upon the governance issues between the Machias School Department and SAD #37 being resolved and their governance structure having been approved by the Machias School Board and the SAD #37 Board of Directors. The terms of the governance agreement must be acceptable to the Commissioner of Education. The agreement must be finalized and in place by March 31, 2008.

Furthermore, the Board would like to stress the importance of a governance agreement being reached between Machias and SAD 37, and if such an agreement cannot be reached no further waivers will be granted to Machais School Department, and therefore Machias School Department will be removed from the Approved Projects List.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Deputy Commissioner reported on the following in the absence of the Commissioner:

- That on line is a paper on regionalization update in which David Connerty-Marin drafted for the Commissioner. You can review the information on the following web address: www.maine.gov/education

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Jim Banks:

- That he attended the annual Maine School Management Association October conference, and he found the Commissioner Gendron's presentation on and responses to regionalization wonderful and very thoughtful.

Jean Gulliver:

- That the State Board of Education received 48 student applications. She, Jack, and Jim will be reviewing the applications over the next week in order to select the names of the students to recommend to the Governor for nomination to serve on the State Board of Education.

Connie Goldman:

- That she attended the October Certification/Higher Education meeting in October and continues to become familiar with the group's work.

Ann Weisleder:

- That she, Jean, and Phil attended the Chapter 469 public hearing, which is a new rule regarding tax credits for college students. She and Phil will be meeting with Harry on Friday, November 16 to review the comments and assist with preparing the responses.

Phil Dionne:

- That today the Board voted to approve the review team for University of New England (UNE) to review their application to award the Master of Medical Education Leadership (MMEL) degree, and it is common practice for a Board member to participate as a member of this team. He would encourage any of the new members to participate as a member of this team or any other review team as it is a great experience.
- That he also attended the Maine School Management Association (MSMA) conference and found it well attended and the presentation sessions interesting. He too thought that Commissioner Gendron did a great job responding to questions and concerns during her presentation.
- That he attended the annual National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) conference. During the conference he was approached by individuals inquiring about Maine and its regionalization efforts. He also attending the panel discussion regarding student members serving on state boards. NASBE awarded two states (Maine and Pennsylvania) a \$15,000 grant to assist them with developing a process of bring students to serve on their board. Maine was not

able to participate as a member of the discussion panel as family matters arose and Jim was not able to attend the annual conference.

- That he attended the first Career Technical Education (CTE) stakeholders meeting, which is the beginning of the process outlines in the Carl Perkins Grant report.
- That he attended the annual Teacher of the Year (TOY) banquet at Colby College.

ADJOURNMENT:

State Board of Education unanimously agreed to adjourn the November 14, 2007, meeting at 3:00 PM.